

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 12986 101812Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 COA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00

EURE-00 DRC-01 /122 W

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P R 101743Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7326

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

NISRA KEFLAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12986

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, IC, GW

SUBJECT: FRG-ICELAND DISCUSSIONS

REF: REYKJAVIK 1044

BEGIN SUMMARY. EMBASSY'S FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCES ARE
CAUTIOUSLY HOPEFUL FOR EVENTUAL SETTLEMENT OF GERMAN
FISHERIES PROBLEMS WITH ICELAND AS RESULT OF SEPTEMBER 6
-7 BONN DISCUSSIONS. THESE WERE ALMOST COMPLETELY CON-
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PAGE 02 BONN 12986 101812Z

FINED TO FISHERIES PROBLEMS. NATO ASPECTS WERE SUBJECT

OF ONLY BRIEF, GENERAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS. IT IS PLANNED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL RESUME IN REYKJAVIK IN OCTOBER. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY'S CONTACTS IN FOREIGN OFFICE WHO TOOK PART IN SEPTEMBER 6-7 DISCUSSIONS HAVE EXPRESSED THEMSELVES AS MODERATELY OPTIMISTIC WITH PROGRESS MADE TOWARD SETTLEMENT OF BILATERAL FISHERIES PROBLEMS. THEY SAY THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE TALKS WAS FRIENDLY AND GENERALLY CONSTRUCTIVE. HARD BARGAINING STILL LIES AHEAD, AND IMPORTANT POINTS ARE STILL IN DISPUTE, BUT THE GERMANS FEEL THEIR PROPOSALS ON CERTAIN ISSUES WERE ATTRACTIVE ENOUGH TO SERIOUSLY INTEREST THE ICELANDERS.

2. THE KEY PROPOSALS APPARENTLY ENVISAGED FRG AGREEMENT TO RESTRICTED FISHING ZONES (THOUGH NOT WHOLLY ON LINES ACCEPTABLE TO GOI) COUPLED WITH GUARANTEED PURCHASE OF GAP BETWEEN GERMAN CATCH AND GERMAN REQUIREMENTS. ONE OF OUR FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCES SAID THE GERMANS WERE TOLD CONFIDENTIALLY BY A MEMBER OF THE ICELANDIC DELEGATION THAT THE PROPOSALS COULD PROBABLY BE THE BASIS OF A SETTLEMENT IF IT WERE NOT FOR THE ATTITUDE AND INFLUENCE OF MINISTER OF FISHERIES JOSEPPSON.

3. AGREEMENT ON GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF RESTRICTED FISHING ZONES WAS NOT ACTUALLY REACHED IN TALKS, BUT GERMAN PROPOSAL AND ICELANDIC COUNTERPROPOSAL WERE SEEN AS FORMING BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATION. AGREEMENT WAS NOT REACHED ON GERMAN CATCH SIZE, NOR ON NUMBER OF GERMAN FACTORY SHIPS. ON OTHER HAND, TALKS MOVED IN DIRECTION OF COMPROMISE ON POLICING OF VIOLATIONS OF EVENTUAL AGREEMENT ON SPECIAL ZONES, WITH ARRANGEMENTS ENVISAGED FOR GERMAN AND ICELANDIC PROTECTION VESSELS JOINTLY HANDLING SERIOUS CASES, AND GERMANS BEING SUBJECT TO ACTION BEFORE GERMAN LEGAL AUTHORITIES.

4. ONLY MENTION OF NATO ASPECTS, WE ARE TOLD, WAS WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER AUGUSTSSON REMARKED TO SCHEEL IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 12986 101812Z

MEETING OUTSIDE FRAMEWORK OF FORMAL DISCUSSIONS THAT ANTI-NATO FEELING WAS GROWING IN ICELAND, A DEVELOPMENT WHICH HE PERSONALLY REGRETTED. SCHEEL REPORTEDLY REPLIED MERELY BY SAYING THAT THE FRG ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO CONTINUING ICELANDIC MEMBERSHIP IN THE ALLIANCE. IDF WAS NOT APPARENTLY MENTIONED AS SUCH DURING VISIT IN FORMAL TALKS. HOWEVER, A FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE SAID THAT AT SOCIAL OCCASION MINISTER

OLAFSSON TOLD HIM THAT IDF WOULD HAVE TO GO, BUT HE
WOULD BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT CONTINUATION OF NECESSARY
"SURVEILLANCE OPERATIONS" BY INTERNATIONAL NATO FORCE.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN12986
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS HILLENBRAND
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730946/aaaabhvn.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: REYKJAVIK 1044
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <17-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG-ICELAND DISCUSSIONS
TAGS: PBOR, IC, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005